

# IDAHO - DEPARTMENT OF FISH & GAME

Jerry M. Conley, Director

Ashton Hatchery

Annual Report



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## ASHTON HATCHERY

### ABSTRACT

Our main purpose for this project at the State Fish Hatchery, Ashton, Idaho is to support the fisheries management program of the Idaho Department of Fish and Game by culturing catchable and fingerling size fish and stocking the lakes, reservoirs and streams of the five (5) eastern Idaho counties that lie in Region 6.

Author:

Hark L. Misseldine  
Fish Hatchery Superintendent II

## INTRODUCTION

The State Fish Hatchery at Ashton is located in northern Fremont County at an elevation of 5,275 ft above sea level. The hatchery is located on Black Springs, has a six (6) cfs flow of spring water. The temperature of this spring water varies, with an average temperature of 51° F. The water supply flows at an average of 1,800 gallons of water per minute in the total hatchery system.

The hatchery rearing facilities include a one million egg capacity incubating room, supported by two fish rearing areas that include 600 cubic feet of inside troughs and 25,000 cubic feet of outside raceway system.

This project operated by two permanent personnel, living in residences at the station, are aided with one or two temporary aides as the work load requires.

## FISH PRODUCTION

During the 1980-1981 fish production year we received 2,467,892 eggs. Of these eggs 1,093,644 were cutthroat from Henrys Lake, 719,128 were rainbow from Hayspur Hatchery, 600,600 were brown trout from Plymouth Rock Hatchery and 54,520 were cutthroat/hybrid from Henrys Lake.

From these eggs we cultured and planted our 495,573 brown trout fingerling (1 in to 3 in), 40,120 cutthroat/hybrid trout from Henrys Lake eggs, 775,817 cutthroat trout from Henrys Lake eggs, 522,369 rainbow fingerling (1 in to 3 in) from Hayspur eggs and we have 156,919 rainbow fingerling we held over for the 1981-1982 fish production year.

Also during the year we had several tanker loads of catchable sized rainbow shipped into Region 6 to our plant areas. These fish came from the Mackay and Hagerman Hatcheries.

Our total production for the year was 1,833,879 fish, for a total of 53,871 pounds of fish.

## FISH FEED USED

During the year we fed out 75,700 lb of fish feed at a cost of \$16,081.03. These feed figures constitute a feeding ratio of 1.40 pounds of feed for each pound of fish produced at a cost ratio of about thirty cents a pound.

Also used during the year was 200 lb of Oregon moist type feed. This feed was used as a beginner feed for the brown trout fry.

Six thousand pounds of medicated feed was used for the hatchery disease control program.

## FISH DISEASE

Bacteria gill disease was our major concern during the year, although we did have some Hexamita occur in our fingerling rainbow and some external bacteria in our catchable rainbow.

The bacteria gill disease was kept under control by the use of three chemical agents: Copper sulfate, Cutrine, and Purina 4X. These agents were used as a Copper

sulfate flush and the Cutrine and Purina 4X was administered by the use of a constant flow siphon apparatus.

The Hexamita was controlled by the addition of epsom salts to the diet and the external bacteria and strawberry skin disease was controlled with Formilan as a constant flow treatment.

#### STATION IMPROVEMENTS

This year the only improvements made at this station was the replacing and addition of a water loading station. This pumping station serviced with water from a small east spring will be fully utilized for fish transportation water, lawn irrigation and station fire control. Also it can be used for emergency fish culture use.

#### PUBLIC RELATION WORK

During the year we attended sportsman meetings and did cooperative work with other agency and department bureaus.

We had approximately 5,000 visitors to the hatchery during the year. We gave special guided tours to private and civic organizations.

Again this year we fulfilled our obligation to the Taylor-Lawrence property project at Sheridan Creek Reservoir, Fremont County by restocking the allotted fish.

#### HATCHERY PERSONNEL

The Ashton Hatchery is operated by two (2) permanent personnel, a Superintendent II in charge of the station and a Superintendent I as an assistant. With the Federal Government programs we are able to get further personnel assistance through the YACC and CETA programs.

We had two (2) men working as needed in these capacities. Todd Moseley worked very well under the CETA and YACC programs and Shaun Henderson is doing good work under the YACC Camp Henry program based at St. Anthony, Idaho. Both of these men live off residence in Ashton.

#### MISCELLANEOUS

During the year we tested some new diets for cutthroat. It proved out real well. Future hatchery improvement projects were worked up and sent into the Boise Headquarters.

There were approximately 400 hours of overtime made during the year and we used approximately 1800 hours of temporary labor during the year. If a third permanent man was added to the station personnel we could eliminate this over time and have more experienced help on hand at all times.

# EGG PRODUCTION

Source	Eggs Received
Hayspur	930,580
Plymouth Rock	600,600
Henrys Lake (Cutthroat)	1,093,644
Henrys Lake (Cutthroat/Hybrid)	54,520

# FISH PLANTED

Rainbow (1" - 6")	522,369
Brown Trout (1" - 3")	495,573
Cutthroat (1" - 3")	775,817
Cutthroat (Hybrid 1" 2")	40,120

# DRY FISH FEED USED

Size	Pounds	Cost
Swim-Up	400	\$ 118.36
#1	500	145.45
#2	1,150	334.54
#3	2,250	654.52
#4	3,550	1,003.60
#5	2,000	421.60
#6	8,450	1,781.26
#7	51,500	9,366.05

# MEDICATED FEED

All Size	6,000	2,225.65
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# OREGON MOIST

All Size	200	68.00
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